(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) whether any foreign agency is assisting ONGC in oil exploration; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The well is proposed to be drilled at Surin Mastgarh in Jammu area to a depth of 7000 metres.

(c) Yes, Sir. At present, USSR is assisting.

HBJ Pipeline Project

1742. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the HBJ pipeline project is likely to commence by the end of the current year;

(b) if so, how many gas based fertilizer projects are likely to come up after commissioning of the project;

(c) whether any demand has been made by those States which have not been covered by the HBJ project; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MIINSTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Preliminary work has already started.

(b) Six gas based fertilizer plants will be set up along the HBJ gas pipeline.

(c) and (d) Government of Maharashtra had suggested that the HBJ pipeline be taken along the Central Railway route to cover the State. This was considered by the Government and not found feasible.

Kothari tie up with M/s. General Foods Corporations of U.S.A.

1743. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what were the exports committed by M/s. General Foods when Kothari tie up with them was sanction year-wise; and

(b) what was the item-wise export committed for the first five years and the date from when the exports were supposed to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) M/s. Kothari General Foods Corporation, Madras, have undertaken to export their production for a minimum value of Rs. 99.60 crores during the first five years.

(b) The undertaking is likely to commence production in 1987 and under the existing instructions the export shall commence 18 months after the unit has gone into production.

Use of latest technology by ONGC and OIL

1744. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Advisory Board on Energy (ABE) has warned the ONGC and OIL, the two public sector oil exploration and production units in the country, not only to im-